

Historic, Archive Document

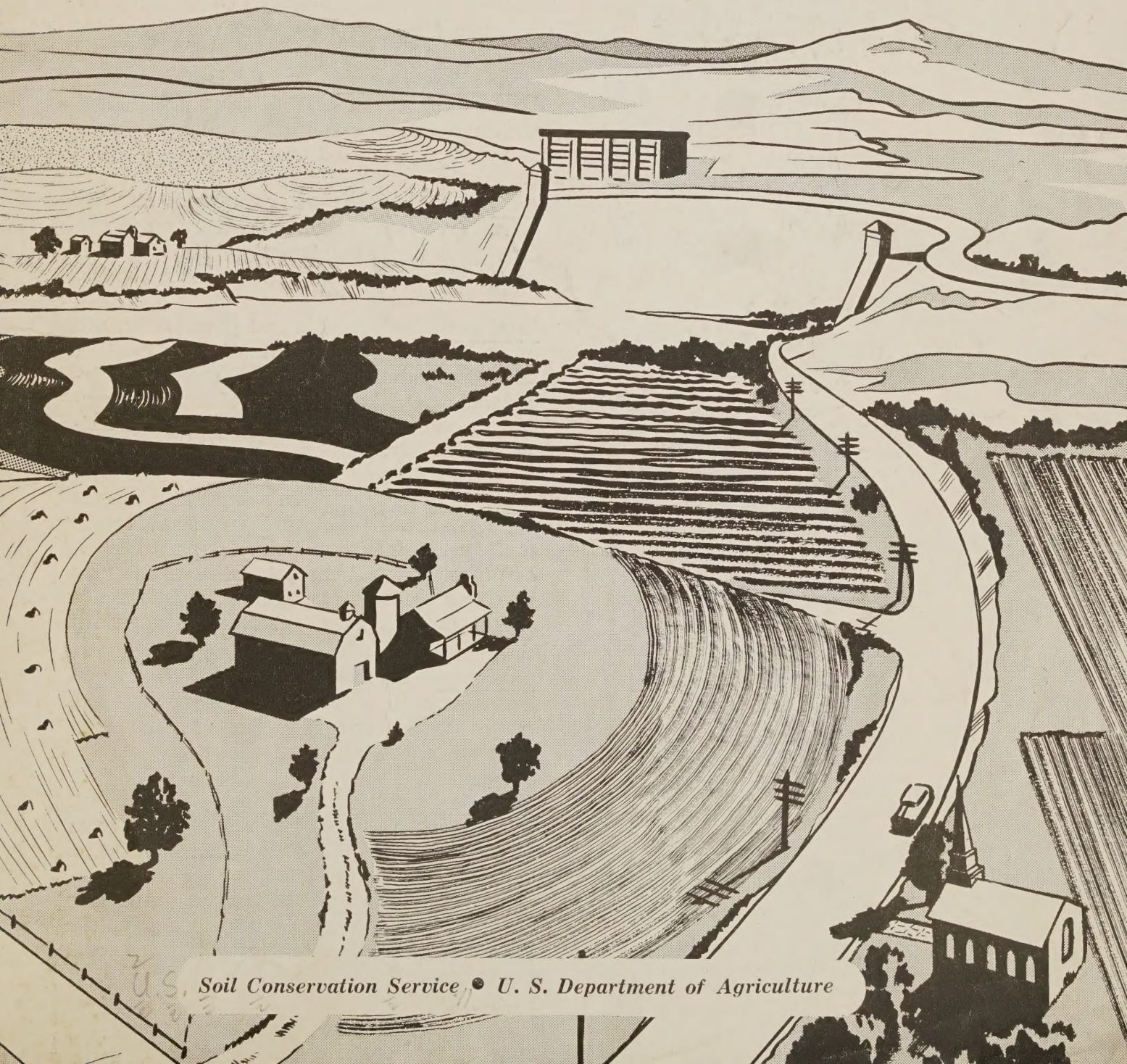
Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

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Practically everything we do is affected by the condition and productive capacity of the land. That's why the National Land-Capability Inventory, complete now on about a quarter of the Nation's privately owned land, is so valuable to industry, business and education as well as to farmers, ranchers and government.

The inventory, being made by the Soil Conservation Service in cooperation with the States and other . . .

³ Land Facts go to Work

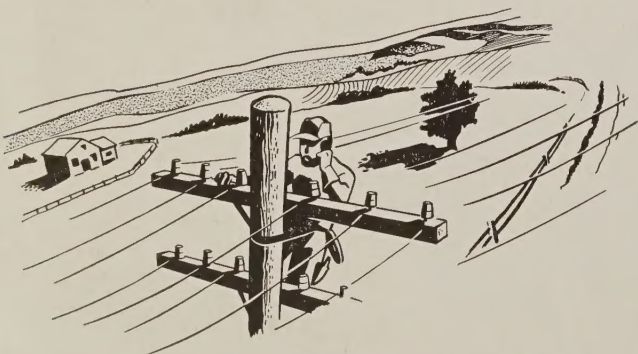


U.S. Soil Conservation Service • U. S. Department of Agriculture

... agencies interpret data on soil, slope, erosion and other land and water features, and provides local land-capability maps which show what each piece of land can do best and what treatment each acre needs for safe, permanent production. These maps classify land according to areas suitable for intensive cultivation, periodic cultivation, grazing, forestry, and wildlife.

We all depend, one way or another, on food, fiber, and other products of the land. The National Land-Capability Inventory supplies the facts we need to make the best possible use of the land resources.

Here are some of the many ways people are using these land facts. Perhaps these examples will suggest how land-capability information can help in your field.



Soil conservation districts—use the land-capability inventory as the basis of the soil conservation farm plans now under way in more than 2,100 of these locally organized and administered groups that are working with the help of the Soil Conservation Service and other Federal and State agencies to establish conservation farming throughout the Nation.

Government agencies—find the land-capability inventory useful in administering public land and in carrying out finance and credit programs related to land and water.

Agricultural research—at experiment stations of various kinds use land-capability maps and data as a basis for investigations and publications dealing with agricultural problems.

Engineers—both private and government, are using land-capability information in location and construction of airports, radio installations, design and construction of dams and reservoirs, and in flood-control, drainage, and irrigation projects.

Highway departments—in many states are using land-capability maps to plan and locate roads, to obtain information on slope, drainage, and other physical characteristics of the land on which roads are to be built, and to locate sources of sand, gravel, and other fill materials.

Canneries—and food processors use land-capability maps to guide them in locating plants and in purchasing suitable lands for the crops they are interested in.

Telephone and telegraph companies—often ask for land-capability information to guide them in the layout of their lines across farm lands.

Oil and gas companies—use land-capability maps to plan for erosion control along their pipelines as well as to locate and construct these lines.

Manufacturers—of farm and automotive equipment have used land-capability maps to locate potential markets for their products.



Investors—both individuals and organizations use the land-capability inventory to measure the soundness of proposed investment or purchase.

Land appraisers—in many states and counties have shown considerable interest in basing land appraisal and tax assessment on the land-capability inventory.



Banks—and other private and government credit institutions frequently turn to land-capability information about individual farms and larger areas to guide them in lending money and in working for general economic improvement.

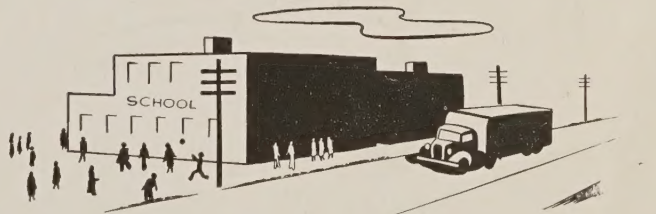
Valley development associations—and such groups as interstate river commissions frequently use land-capability data to guide their studies and action programs.



Reforestation—and other land-reclamation programs have brought about a demand for land-capability studies to determine the suitability of land for various kinds of trees, shrubs, and grasses.



Educators and students—in some localities are requesting land-capability maps and data to provide material for publications, scientific papers, talks, and classroom study in agriculture, economics, and other subjects where land condition and production are involved. The inventory also aids in the location or consolidation of schools.



Game and fish organizations—and sportsman groups are turning to land-capability maps to study habitat improvement and to locate suitable sites for wildlife refuges, recreation areas, and game farms.



Railroads—use land-capability maps to guide right-of-way maintenance work.

